

Revision to Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries Records Disposition Authority

At the request of the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries, the State Records Commission approved the following revision to the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries's RDA:

I. Revision:

Regulating Agricultural Commodities (Feed, Fertilizer, and Lime Materials)

Records documenting activities relating to the audit of agricultural commodity business entities

Disposition: Temporary Record. Retain 5 years after the end of the fiscal year in which the records were created.

Regulating Petroleum Products

Records documenting applications for and issuance/renewal of annual permits for gasoline, lubricating oil, and brake fluid related business entities

Disposition: Temporary Record. Retain 4 years after the end of the fiscal year in which the records were created.

Records documenting monthly inspection fees collected by the department on petroleum products sold, stored, used, or offered for sale in the state

Disposition: Temporary Record. Retain 4 years after the end of the fiscal year in which the records were created.

Petroleum Commodity Certificates for Reduced Inspection Fee Rate

Disposition: Temporary Record. Retain 4 years after the end of the fiscal year in which the company was closed.

Records documenting specific and continuous reporting information for companies marketing petroleum products.

Disposition: Temporary Record. Retain 4 years after the end of the fiscal year in which the company is closed or discontinued business in the state.

Regulating Weights and Measures

~~Records documenting the inspection of light duty/heavy duty weight scales or measuring devices~~

~~Disposition: Temporary Record. Retain 3 years after the end of the fiscal year in which the records were created. (Deleted)~~

Records documenting the inspection of light duty weight scales or measuring devices

Disposition: Temporary Record. Retain 4 years after the end of the fiscal year in which the records were created.

Records documenting the inspection of heavy duty weight scales or measuring devices
Disposition: Temporary Record. Retain 4 years after the end of the fiscal year in which the records were created.

II Addition:

Regulating Livestock and Poultry

Unused Livestock Hauler Tags

Disposition: Temporary Record. Retain 3 years after the end of the fiscal year in which the records were created.

Requirement and Recommendations for Implementing the Records Disposition Authority

Under the Code of Alabama 1975, Section 41-13-21, “no state officer or agency head shall cause any state record to be destroyed or otherwise disposed of without first obtaining approval of the State Records Commission.” This Records Disposition Authority constitutes authorization by the State Records Commission for the disposition of the records of the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries (hereafter referred to as the agency) as stipulated in this document.

One condition of this authorization is that the agency submit an annual Records Disposition Authority (RDA) Implementation Report on agency records management activities, including documentation of records destruction, to the State Records Commission in April of each year. In addition, the agency should make every effort to establish and maintain a quality record-keeping program through the following activities:

- The agency should designate a records liaison, who is responsible for: ensuring the development of quality record keeping systems that meet the business and legal needs of the agency, coordinating the transfer and destruction of records, ensuring that permanent records held on alternative storage media (such as microforms and digital imaging systems) are maintained in compliance with national and state standards, and ensuring the regular implementation of the agency’s approved RDA.
- Permanent records in the agency’s custody should be maintained under proper intellectual control and in an environment that will ensure their physical order and preservation.
- Destruction of temporary records, as authorized in this RDA, should occur agency-wide on a regular basis—for example, after the successful completion of an audit, at the end of an administration, or at the end of a fiscal year. Despite the RDA’s provisions, no record should be destroyed that is necessary to comply with requirements of the state Sunset Act, audit requirements, or any legal notice or subpoena.
- The agency should maintain full documentation of any computerized record-keeping system

it employs. It should develop procedures for: (1) backing up all permanent records held in electronic format; (2) storing a back-up copy off-site; and (3) migrating all permanent records when the system is upgraded or replaced. If the agency chooses to maintain permanent records solely in electronic format, it is committed to funding any system upgrades and migration strategies necessary to ensure the records' permanent preservation and accessibility.

The staff of the State Records Commission or the Examiners of Public Accounts may examine the condition of the permanent records maintained in the custody of the agency and inspect records destruction documentation. Government Records Division archivists are available to instruct the agency staff in RDA implementation and otherwise assist the agency in implementing its records management program.

The State Records Commission adopted this records disposition authority on April 26, 2006.

Edwin C. Bridges, Chairman, by Tracey Berezansky
State Records Commission

Date

Receipt acknowledged:

Ron Sparks, Commissioner
Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries

Date